

# Bibliographical Compilations of the Ḥanafī Legal School

The Ḥanafī juridical tradition has produced an extensive corpus of biographical literature documenting its scholarly lineage. Dr. Muhyī al-Dīn Hilāl al-Sarhān has catalogued several such works in his introduction to *Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya li-Ibn al-Ḥannā’ī* [طبقات الحنفية لابن الحناني] (Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars by Ibn al-Ḥannā’ī, d. 979 AH, v. 1/p. 81], while Dr. ‘Abd al-Fattāḥ al-Ḥilw has enumerated additional texts in his prefatory analysis of *al-Ṭabaqāt al-Saniyya* by Taqī al-Dīn ibn ‘Abd al-Qādir al-Tamīmī (d. 1010 AH). A further supplementation to these mainly bibliographical indices with further textual specimens encountered during investigation of biographical compendiums and manuscript catalogues have also been listed below. Texts of unattributed authorship have been methodically excluded from this compilation, as have works whose attribution remains philologically unverified. The following constitutes an enumeration of most of the extant texts:

1. *Akhbār Abī Ḥanīfa wa-Ashābihi* [أخبار أبي حنفية وأصحابه] (Historical reports of Abū Ḥanīfa and His Companions] by al-Ṣaymārī (d. 436 AH), which is likely the first book on the biographies of Ḥanafī scholars, and it is in print.
2. *Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya* [طبقات الحنفية] (Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars] by Abū ‘Āsim Muḥammad ibn Ibrāhīm ibn Muḥammad ‘Abd Allāh al-Harawī (d. 458 AH), which exists in manuscript format with a copy in the Aya Sofya collection in Istanbul, number 948.
3. *Ṭabaqāt al-Fuqahā’* [طبقات الفقهاء] (Classes of Jurists] by ‘Abd al-Wahhāb ibn Muḥammad ibn ‘Abd al-Wahhāb al-Fāmī (d. 500 AH). As mentioned in *al-I’lān bi-al-Tawbīkh* of al-Sakhawī, p. 191.
4. *Ṭabaqāt al-Fuqahā’* (*Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya wa-al-Shāfi’iyya*) [طبقات الفقهاء (طبقات الحنفية والشافعية] (Classes of Jurists (Classes of Ḥanafī and Shāfi’ī Scholars)] by Muḥammad ibn ‘Abd al-Malik ibn Ibrāhīm al-Hamadhānī (d. 521 AH),

mentioned in Kashf al-*Zunūn* of Ḥājjī Khalīfa and in Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya by al-Qurashī, p. 478.

5. Wafayāt al-A‘yān min Madhab al-Nu‘mān (وفيات الأعيان من مذهب النعمان) [Deaths of Notables from the School of al-Nu‘mān] by Najm al-Dīn Ibrāhīm ibn ‘Alī ibn Aḥmad al-Ṭarṭūsī (d. 758 AH). A copy exists in al-Ẓāhirīyya library, Damascus: section 31/2, general 7149 Ẓāhirīyya.

6. Kitāb fī Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (كتاب في طبقات الحنفية) [A Book on the Classes of Ḥanafīs] by Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn ‘Abd Allāh ibn Muḥammad al-Muhandis (d. 769 AH), which is a large book. The scholar [hāfiẓ] Ibn Ḥajar mentioned that he worked hard on it, as he examined many books in different countries. Al-Durār al-Kāmina 3/6.

7. Al-Jawāhir al-Muḍīyya fī Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (الجواهر المضية في طبقات الحنفية) [The Luminous Jewels on the Classes of Ḥanafīs] by Muhyī al-Dīn ‘Abd al-Qādir ibn Muḥammad ibn Naṣr al-Qurashī (d. 775 AH), which is one of the largest biographical books of Ḥanafīs. It is in print, published in Hyderabad in 1332 AH, in Karachi by Mīr Muḥammad Kutubkhāna, and published with the editing of Dr. ‘Abd al-Fattāḥ al-Ḥilw at ‘Isā al-Bābī press in Egypt in 1398 AH.

8. Naṣm al-Jumān fī Ṭabaqāt Aṣḥāb Imāminā al-Nu‘mān (نظم الجمان في طبقات) [String of Pearls on the Classes of the Companions of Our Imam al-Nu‘mān] by Ṣārim al-Dīn Ibrāhīm ibn Muḥammad ibn Aydūmar ibn Duqmāq al-Qāhirī d. (d. 809 AH), which exists as a manuscript in 3 volumes, dedicating the first to the biography of Abū Ḥanīfa, and the second and third to the biographies of his companions. Ḥājjī Khalīfa said in "Kashf al-*Zunūn*" 2/1098: "I saw the first and second volumes in his handwriting." It was published by Dar ibn Hazm in 5 volumes in 1445 AH (2024)

9. Al-Mirqāt al-Wafīyya fī Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (المرقة الوفية في طبقات الحنفية) [The Complete Ladder on the Classes of Ḥanafīs] by Majd al-Dīn Abū Ṭāhir Muḥammad ibn Ya‘qūb al-Fīrūzābādī al-Shīrāzī al-Shāfi‘ī (d. 817 AH), which is an abridgment of Al-Jawāhir al-Muḍīyya fī Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya "الجواهر" of the "المضية في طبقات الحنفية". A copy exists in the ‘Ārif Ḥikmat Library in Madina, number 42. It has been published in 2 volumes by Dar al-Fath.

10. Al-Tadhkira (الذكرة) [The compendium] by Taqī al-Dīn Aḥmad 'Alī ibn 'Abd al-Qādir al-Maqrīzī (d. 845 AH), to which al-ḥāfiẓ Ibn Qutlūbughā (d. 879 AH) referred in the introduction to his "Tāj al-Tarājim."
11. Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (طبقات الحنفية) [Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars] by Taqī al-Dīn Abū Bakr ibn Aḥmad ibn Muḥammad ibn 'Umar al-Asadī al-Shahbī al-Dimashqī (d. 851 AH).
12. Kitāb Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (كتاب طبقات الحنفية) [Book of the Classes of Ḥanafīs] by al-Qadi Badr al-Dīn Maḥmūd ibn Aḥmad al-'Aynī d. (855 AH).
13. Tāj al-Tarājim fī Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (تاج الترافق في طبقات الحنفية) [Crown of Biographies on the Classes of Ḥanafīs] by Zayn al-Dīn Qāsim ibn Qutlūbughā (879 AH), which is in print, first published in Leipzig in 1862 CE, and published in al-Muthannā Library in Baghdad in 1962.
14. Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (طبقات الحنفية) [Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars] by Muḥammad ibn Maḥmūd ibn Khalīl, Shams al-Dīn al-Qūnawī, known as Ibn Ājā (d. 881 AH), and his book is in 3 volumes.
15. Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (طبقات الحنفية) [Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars] by Muhibb al-Dīn Abī al-Faḍl Muḥammad ibn Muḥammad al-Thaqafī al-Ḥalabī, known as Ibn al-Shiḥna al-Ṣaghīr (d. 890 AH), and his book is in several volumes.
16. Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (طبقات الحنفية) [Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars] by al-Ḥāfiẓ Muḥammad ibn 'Abd al-Rahmān ibn Muḥammad al-Sakhawī (902 AH). A copy exists in the Film Images Library in the Manuscripts Department of the Islamic University of Madina, number 5/4857.
17. Mukhtaṣar min Manāqib A'imat al-Ḥanafīyya wa-al-Shāfi'iyya (مختصر من مناقب أئمة الحنفية والشافعية) [Abridgment of the Virtues of the Imams of the Ḥanafī and Shāfi'i Schools] by Aḥmad ibn Sulaymān ibn Kamāl, known as Ibn Kamāl Pasha (d. 940 AH). A copy exists in the Makkan Sanctuary Library

(Maktabat al-Ḥaram al-Makkī), number 82 Biographies, and another in Madina at the Maḥmūdiyya Library, number 16/2650.

18. Al-Ghuraf al-‘Aliyya fī Tarājim Muta’akhkhirī al-Ḥanafīyya (الغرف العلية في ترجم متأخرى الحنفية) [The Lofty Chambers on the Biographies of Later Ḥanafīs] by Shams al-Dīn Muḥammad ibn ‘Alī ibn Aḥmad ibn Ṭūlūn al-Ṣāliḥī al-Dimashqī (d. 953 AH). A manuscript copy exists in the King Faisal Centre in Riyadh, number B 21477-21483.

19. Talkhīṣ al-Jawāhir al-Muḍīyya fī Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (تلخيص الجوادر المضية في طبقات الحنفية) [Summary of the Luminous Jewels on the Classes of Ḥanafīs] by Muḥammad ibn Ibrāhīm al-Ḥalabī (d. 956 AH). A manuscript copy exists in Riyadh (Film 63) from ‘Ārif Ḥikmat, and he also abridged the aforementioned book of Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn al-Muhandis.

20. Abridgment by Ibrāhīm ibn Muḥammad ibn Ibrāhīm al-Ḥalabī (d. 956 AH) - who abridged the book of Ibn al-Muhandis and "Al-Jawāhir al-Muḍīyya." A copy exists in the Public Library (al-Maktaba al-‘Umūmiyya) in Syria, number 5055, and another in the Shahīd ‘Alī collection in Turkiye, number 1941, and another in Dār al-‘Ulūm in Pakistan, number 1647, and in the Imperial Library in Vienna 1171, and in the Aya Sofya Library in Turkiye, number 3103, and in the Köprülü collection, Turkiye, numbers 1110 and 1112.

21. Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (طبقات الحنفية) [Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars] by Muḥammad, grandson of Āq Shams al-Dīn (d. 959 AH).

22. Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (طبقات الحنفية) [Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars] by Aḥmad ibn Muṣṭafā ibn Khalīl, Ṭāshkubrī Zādah (d. 968 AH). A copy exists in the Kuwait Library, number 7 History, and it was published in Mosul, Iraq in 1954.

23. Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (طبقات الحنفية) [Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars] by ‘Alā’ al-Dīn ibn Amr Allāh al-Ḥumaydī, known as Ibn al-Ḥannā’ī (d. 979 AH). Published with the editing of Dr. Muḥyī Hilāl al-Sarḥān at the Dīwān al-Waqf al-Sunnī press in Baghdad in 2005 in 3 volumes.

24. *Katā'ib A'lām al-Akhyār min Fuqahā' Madhab al-Nu'mān al-Mukhtār* (كتاب أعلام الأئم من فقهاء مذهب النعمان المختار) [Luminaries of the Righteous Jurists of the School of al-Nu'mān the Chosen] by Maḥmūd ibn Sulaymān al-Kafawī (d. 990 AH). A copy exists in the Maḥmūdiyya Library in Madina, number 2575, and another in the Qādiriyya Library, number 1242.

25. *Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafiyya* (طبقات الحنفية) [Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars] by Quṭb al-Dīn Muḥammad ibn 'Alā' al-Dīn Aḥmad ibn Muḥammad ibn Qādī Khān ibn Bahā' al-Dīn ibn Ya'qūb ibn Ḥasan ibn 'Alī al-Nahrawānī al-Hindī then al-Makkī al-Ḥanafī, the scholarly Imam (d. 990 AH).

26. *Ṭabaqāt al-Sāda al-Ḥanafiyya* (طبقات السادة الحنفية) [Classes of the Ḥanafī Masters] by 'Abd Allāh al-Suwaydī, from the scholars of the tenth century AH. A copy exists in the Berlin Library in Germany, number 10026, and another copy in the Khudabakhsh Library in India, number 12/761. See here - [https://digital.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/werkansicht/?PPN=PPN1856805212&PHYSID=PHYS\\_0003](https://digital.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/werkansicht/?PPN=PPN1856805212&PHYSID=PHYS_0003)

And: [https://digital.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/werkansicht?PPN=PPN1857205901&PHYSID=PHYS\\_0050&DMDID=DMDLOG\\_0001](https://digital.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/werkansicht?PPN=PPN1857205901&PHYSID=PHYS_0050&DMDID=DMDLOG_0001)

27. *Al-Ṭabaqāt al-Saniyya fī Tarājim al-Ḥanafiyya* (الطبقات السنية في تراجم الحنفية) [The Sublime Classes on the Biographies of Ḥanafis] by Taqī al-Dīn ibn 'Abd al-Qādir al-Tamīmī (d. 1010 AH), which is one of the largest biographical books of scholars of the school. The first part was published with the editing of 'Abd al-Fattāḥ al-Ḥilw, then reprinted in Dār al-Rifā'ī in Kuwait in 1983, with 3 parts printed, but it was not completed. It was announced in 2021 to be published fully in 8 volumes by Ismaeel books in the UK. See here - <https://x.com/Ismaeelbooksuk/status/1467971961880027143>

28. *Al-Athmār al-Janiyya fī Asmā' al-Ḥanafiyya* (الاثمار الجنية في أسماء الحنفية) [The Gathered Fruits on the Names of Ḥanafis] by 'Alī ibn Sultān Muḥammad al-Qārī al-Harawī (d. 1014 AH), which is an abridgment of the book *Al-Jawāhir al-Muḍiyya* by al-Qurashī. Published in the Khuda bakhsh Library with the editing of Salīm al-Dīn Aḥmad in 2002 in one volume, and also published in the Sunni Endowment press in Baghdad with the editing of Dr. 'Abd al-Muhsin 'Abd Allāh Aḥmad in two volumes in 2009.

29. Țabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (طبقات الحنفية) [Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars] by al-Qadi Khalīl al-Rūmī, known as Șūlāq Zādah (d. 1095 AH), and his book is a manuscript with a copy in the Walī al-Dīn Efendi collection in Turkiye.

30. Mahām al-Fuqahā' fī Țabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (مهمات الفقهاء في طبقات الحنفية) [Important Matters of the Jurists in the Classes of Ḥanafīs] by al-Qadi Muḥammad Kāmī ibn Ibrāhīm ibn Aḥmad ibn Shaykh Sinān ibn Maḥmūd al-Adrinawī al-Rūmī al-Ḥanafī (d. 1136 AH).

31. Khulāṣat al-Jawāhir fī Țabaqāt al-A'īma al-Ḥanafīyya al-Akābir (خلاصة الجوادر في طبقات الأئمة الحنفية الأكابر) [Summary of the Jewels on the Classes of the Great Ḥanafī Imams] by 'Abd al-Salām ibn Muḥammad Amīn ibn Shams al-Dīn al-Dāghistānī (d. 1202 AH).

32. Al-Fawā' id al-Bahiyya fī Tarājim al-Ḥanafīyya (الفوائد البهية في تراجم الحنفية) [The Splendid Benefits on the Biographies of Ḥanafīs] by Abū al-Hasanāt 'Abd al-Ḥayy al-Laknawī d. (1304 AH). This book is a summary and refinement of Katā'ib A'lām al-Akhyār by al-Kafawī, in which he wrote biographies of about six hundred of the famous scholars of the school. It is in print, published in Lucknow, India, in 1993 AH, with "Al-Ta'līqāt al-Saniyya 'alā al-Fawā' id al-Bahiyya" [The Sublime Annotations on the Splendid Benefits] in the margin, which is also by him, and published in Pakistan and Egypt.

33. [Additional works by al-Laknawī] who dedicated a book to the men of al-Hidāya, which he included in the introduction to al-Hidāya, then made an appendix for it called Mudhayyilat al-Dirāya (مذيلة الدرایة) and he also singled out the commentators of "Al-Jāmi' al-Ṣaghīr" [الجامع الصغير] [The Small Compendium] and the authors of the texts, and books of biographies included in his book "Al-Nāfi' al-Kabīr fī Sharḥ al-Jāmi' al-Ṣaghīr" (النافع الكبير) [في شرح الجامع الصغير] [The Great Benefit in the Explanation of the Small Compendium], then he wrote biographies of those mentioned or their books in "Sharḥ al-Wiqāya" (شرح الوقایة) along with its commentators and annotators, in the introduction to his book "Al-Si'āya li-Sharḥ al-Wiqāya" (السعایة لشرح الوقایة).

34. Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (طبقات الحنفية) [Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars] by ‘Afīf al-Dīn al-Shirwānī. A copy exists in the Egyptian National Library, number 5/248.

35. Tadhkīrat al-Ṭabaqāt (تذكرة الطبقات) [Memoir of Classes] by Muḥammad ibn Yāsuf al-Šāliḥī (d. 942 AH). A copy exists in the Library of the Makkan Sanctuary (Maktabat al-Ḥaram al-Makkī), number 3543, and in the Mahmudiyya Library in Madina, number 2544, and it is focused on the biography of Abū Ḥanīfa and his companions.

36. Al-Ṭabaqāt al-Jaliyya fī Tarājim al-Sāda al-Ḥanafīyya (طبقات الجلية في تراجم السادة الحنفية) [The Clear Classes on the Biographies of the Ḥanafī Masters] by Kamāl al-Dīn Muḥammad ibn ‘Abd al-Raḥmān al-Ghazzī d. (1061 AH). It is among the books mentioned in al-Muhibbī's history.

37. Silsilat al-Dhahab fī Tarājim A‘yān al-Madhab (سلسلة الذهب في تراجم أعيان المذهب) [The Golden Chain on the Biographies of Notables of the School] by Abū al-Sa‘ādāt ‘Abd al-Raḥmān ibn ‘Abd al-Raḥīm al-Madrāsī al-Makkī (d. 1185 AH).

38. Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya (طبقات الحنفية) [Classes of Ḥanafī Scholars] by Bahā’ al-Dīn Muḥammad Amīn al-Baghdādī known as al-Suwaydī (d. 1246 AH).

39. Asmā’ al-Kutub al-Ma‘rūfa bi-Kashf al-Zunūn fī al-Dhayl wa-al-Mutūn (أسماء الكتب المعروفة بكشف الظنون في الذيل والمتون) [Names of Books by unveiling obscurities in Appendices and Texts] by Ismā‘īl Pasha al-Baghdādī (d. 1339 AH). It contains many biographies of Ḥanafī scholars.

40. Al-Ṭabaqāt al-Ḥanafīyya wa-Taṭawwur al-Fiqh al-Ḥanafī (طبقات الحنفية وتطور الفقه الحنفي) [The Ḥanafī Classes and the Development of Ḥanafī Jurisprudence] by ‘Abd al-Majīd al-Turkmānī.

41. Al-Madhab al-Ḥanafī, Madārisuhu wa-Mu’allafatuhu, Khuṣūṣiyyātuhu wa-Khaṣā’iṣuhu (المذهب الحنفي، مدارسه ومؤلفاته، خصوصياته وخصائصه) [The Ḥanafī School, Its scholarly institutions, Its authors, Specificities and

Characteristics], a doctoral dissertation by Ahmād al-Naqīb. Printed by the Office of Islamic Press and Distribution, Cairo, in two volumes, 2001.

42. *Madkhal ilā Dirāsat al-Madhab al-Ḥanafī* (مدخل إلى دراسة المذهب الحنفي) [Introduction to the Study of the Ḥanafī School] by Ahmād Sa‘īd Hawwā, Dār al-Andalus al-Khaḍrā’, Jeddah, 1st edition, 1999.

43. *Al-Madhab al-Ḥanafī* (المذهب الحنفي) [The Ḥanafī School] in 2 volumes, by Dr. ‘Abd al-Karīm ibn Muḥammad ibn Ahmād al-Lāhīm, Dār al-‘Āṣīma, Riyadh, 1st edition, 2002.

44. *Mu‘jam Taṣānīf al-Ḥanafīyya* (معجم تصانيف الحنفية) [Dictionary of Ḥanafī Works] by Khayr al-Dīn Ziriklī, Riyadh University, 1983.

45. *Mu‘jam al-Maṭbū‘āt al-‘Arabiyya wa-al-Mu‘arraba fī al-Fiqh al-Ḥanafī* (معجم المطبوعات العربية والمصرية في الفقه الحنفي) [Dictionary of Arabic and Arabized Printed Materials in Ḥanafī Jurisprudence] by Muḥammad ibn Sa‘ūd al-Baṣīrī, Maktabat al-Rushd, Riyadh, 1st edition, 2001.

46. *Al-Mu‘jam al-Jāmi‘ fī Tarājim al-‘Ulamā’ wa-Ṭalabat al-‘Ilm al-Mu‘āṣirīn* (المعجم الجامع في تراجم العلماء وطلبة العلم المعاصرين) [The Comprehensive Dictionary on the Biographies of Contemporary Scholars and Students of Knowledge] by Dr. ‘Abd Allāh al-Zāyidī, which includes biographies of some contemporary Ḥanafī scholars. Printed in 2004.

47. *Tarājim al-Mu‘allifīn al-Tūnisiyyīn* (تراجم المؤلفين التونسيين) [Biographies of Tunisian Authors] by Muḥammad Maḥfūz, Dār al-Gharb al-Islāmī, Beirut, 2nd edition, 1994. It contains biographies of some Tunisian Ḥanafī scholars.

48. *Al-Jawāhir al-Naqiyya fī Tarājim al-Ḥuffāẓ al-Ḥanafīyya* (الجوادر النقية في) [The Pure Jewels on the Biographies of Ḥanafī Preservers], Supervision and Review by Muftī Abū al-Qāsim al-Nu‘mānī, Correction and Revision by Shaykh Ni‘mat Allāh al-A‘zamī, Preparation by Shaykh Abū ‘Abd Allāh Ma‘rūf Mujīb al-Fīnawī, published by Maktaba al-Ittihād, India, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, 2019 CE.

49. Al-Yawāqīt wa-al-Jawāhir fī Tarājim Nubalā' Bangāl wa-al-Akābir (اليواقيت والجواهر في تراجم نبلاء بنغال والأكابر) [The Rubies and Jewels on the Biographies of Bengal's Nobles and Elite Scholars], published in 2021 CE in 8 volumes by Shaykh Muḥammad Ḥifz al-Rahmān al-Kumillā'ī, Head of the Department of Fatwa Issuance at al-Jāmi'a al-Rahmāniyya al-'Arabiyya, Dhaka, Bangladesh. The work contains mainly biographies of Ḥanafī scholars from around the last 150 years.

50. Al-Budūr al-Muḍiyya fī Tarājim al-Ḥanafīyya (البدور المضيّة في تراجم الحنفية) [The Luminous Full Moons on the Biographies of Ḥanafīs], also by the last author, Shaykh Muḥammad Ḥifz al-Rahmān al-Kumillā'ī, Publisher: Dār al-Ṣāliḥ (Cairo - Egypt), Maktabat Shaykh al-Islām (Dhaka - Bangladesh), 1439 AH - 2018 CE, number of volumes: 23 (last 2 are indexes). This is probably the largest work to date on the subject matter. The pdf copy is available here to download - <https://archive.org/details/bodourmedia>

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Abul Hasan Hussain Ahmed

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22-4-25/Shawwal 1446 AH

London, UK